LESSON 8

In this lesson we learn the following :

#(1) The *ma'rifah* and the *nakirah*, i.e., the definite (الْمَعْرِفة) and the indefinite noun (النَّكِرَة).

Read this passage, "*A man* came to me and said that he was hungry. He was a stranger. I gave *the man* some money." Here *a man* is indefinite, because he is unkown to you and to your listner. But *the man* is definite because he has already been mentioned.

In Arabic the following seven categories of nouns are definite (مَعْرِفة) :

1) pronouns like أنا، أنت، هو.

2) proper names like أحمد، الهند، مكّة.

3) demonstrative pronouns like هذا، ذلك، أولئك.

4) relative pronouns like الذي، الَّذين، التي، ما، مَنْ.

5) a noun with the article ال like الكتاب، الرَّجُل.

6) a noun with a definite noun as its *mudâf ilaihi* like كتابُـه، كتابُ حامـد كتابُ هذا، كتابُ الذي خَرَجَ، كتابُ المدرِّسِ

A noun which has an indefinite noun as its ***mudâf ilaihi*** is indefinite like كتابُ طالبٍ 'a student's book', بيتُ مدرِّسٍ 'a teacher's house'.

7) a *munâdâ* specified by *nidâ'* (calling), e.g., يا رَجُلُ 'O man', يا وَلَدُ 'O boy'. Note that رَجُلٌ and وَلَدٌ are indefinite. But they have become definite because they are the ones meant by the caller. If, however, an indefinite noun is not specified by the caller, it remains indefinite even after being *munâdâ*, as a blind man saying, يا رَجُلاً خُذْ بيدي 'O man, hold my hand.' It is obvious that he does not mean any particular person.

Note that in يا رَجُلُ the *munâdâ* is *mabnî* and has **u**-ending while in يا رَجُلاً it is *mansûb.*

A *nakirah* becomes a *ma'rifah* by being *munâdâ* as we have seen, whereas a *ma'rifah* is not affected by *nidâ'*, e.g., بِلاَلٌ is *ma'rifah*, and remains so in يا بِلاَلُ.

#(2) تَعَـــالَ 'come!' This verb is used only in the *amr*. In the *mâḏî* and the *muḏâri'* the verbs جاءَ يَجِيءُ or أتَى يأتِي are used, e.g., جَاءَنِي بلالٌ أمسِ 'Bilal came to me yesterday.' -- لا تأتِني غداً 'Don't come to me tomorrow,'

Here is تَعَالَ *isnâd*ed to the other pronouns of the second person :

تَعَـــالَوا يـــا إخـــوانُ (ta'âl**au**), تَعَـــالَيْ يـــا خَدِيجَـــةُ (ta'âl**ai**), تَعالَيْنَ يا أخَواتُ (ta'âl**aina**), تَعالَيا يا وَلَدان / يا بنتان (ta'âl**ayâ**).

The verb تَعالَى is, however, used in the *mâḏî* and the *muḏâri'* in the sense of 'he went up, he rose, he was exalted'. The *amr* تَعالَ originally meant 'come up', 'ascend', then it came to mean just 'come'.

✍Exercises

1) Answer the following questions.

2a) Mention three examples of the *nakirah*.

2b) Mention three examples of each of the seven categories of the *ma'rifah*.

2c) Mention all the *nakirah* nouns occurring in the main lesson.

2d) Mention all the *ma'rifah* nouns occurring in the main lesson and specify the category of each of them.

2e)Which of these two words has become *ma'rifah* because of *nida'* : يا ولَـــدُ يا مالِكُ?

2f) Read the following *ḫadîth* and point out the *nakirah* and *ma'rifah* nouns occurring in it, and specify the category of each of the *ma'rifah* nouns.

2g) Change each of the following *nakirah* nouns to *ma'rifah* using the method mentioned in front of it1.

1- The word الإضافة means making the word *muḏâf.* Of course you have to use a suitable *muḏâf ilaihi* with it.

3) Point out the following in the main lesson :

a) two examples of *muḏâf* with *ma'rifah* nouns as *muḏâf ilaihi,* and two examples of *muḏâf* with *nakirah* nouns as *muḏâf ilaihi.*

b) three examples of اسمُ الفاعِل.

c) an example of *nasab.*

4) The students practise the two following language drills :

a) each student says to his colleague, أَعْطِنِي قَلَمَكَ / كتابَكَ / دفترَكَ 'give me your pen/book/notebook..'

b) each student says to his colleague pointing to another colleague أَعْطِـهِ كتابَكَ/ دفترَكَ 'give him your book/ notebook...'

5) Learn the following verbs.

6) Mention the plural of each of the following nouns.

7) What is the the opposite of فَوْقَ ?

The word تَحْلِيَـة literally means 'decorating'. تَحْلِيَةُ الكلمةِ بِـأَلْ means 'decorating the word with the article **al**', i.e., using **al** with the word. The word with the article **al** is called المُحَلّى بِـأَلْ 'decorated with **al**'.

The word النِّداء means 'calling'. In grammar it means using يا with the noun, e.g., يا بلالُ.